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ABSTRACT

Focusing exclusively on the art and science of oral communication for grades K-8, this book explains fundamental concepts in contemporary oral communication instruction and suggests practical strategies for implementing a competency-based approach to oral communication in an integrated classroom setting. The book also emphasizes oral communication as a process that involves both speaking and listening; outlines specific competencies and authentic assessment methods for speaking and listening; includes exercises to help create a safe and inclusive classroom, along with tools to identify communication apprehension; and provides specific oral communication exercises for K-2, 3-5, and 6-8 for use in integrated language arts programs. Chapters in the book are: (1) Positioning Oral Communication within the Language Arts; (2) The Importance of a Communication-Friendly Classroom; (3) Building Oral Communication Competency in a Variety of Contexts; (4) Focus on Listening; (5) Authentic Performance Assessment: Evaluating Oral Communication Competency; (6) Making the Most of Your Language Arts Textbook; (7) Exercises and Activities for Grades K through 2; (8) Exercises and Activities for Grades 3 through 5; (9) Exercises and Activities for Grades 6 through 8; and (10) Competitive Speech and Debate, Host Course, and Activities with Community Involvement. An appendix describes designing an oral communication lab and resource center. (RS)

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